California GARDEN

Leaves that fling
A whorling pattern
On the summer sky
And strum
A muted tremolo
For mid-day sleep.

Golden-Rain Tree
in Zoo Picnic Area
Photograph by
Sim Richards

San Diego County's
Garden Magazine
Since 1909

August-September,
1964
Vol. 55, No. 4

35 cents

FLOWER SHOWS

1964

August

DAHLIA SHOW — CONFERENCE BUILDING, BALBOA PARK
1 Saturday 2-8 p.m.
2 Sunday 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
S.D. County Dahlia Society

September

BEGONIA AND SHADE PLANT SHOW — L.A. COUNTY ARBORETUM, ARCADIA
6 Saturday 2-6 p.m.
6, 7 Sun. and Mon. 9 a.m.- 6 p.m.
American Begonia Society

FALL FLOWER ARRANGEMENT SHOW — FLORAL BUILDING, BALBOA PARK
12 Saturday 2-5 p.m.
13 Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
S.D. Floral Association

SANTA BARBARA GARDEN TOURS

August 7 through September 4
Friday afternoons only

August 13-14-15 Fiesta Week
Afternoons only

TOUR OF MONTECITO
SANTA BARBARA AND
HOPE RANCH PARK

Fall Flower Arrangement Classes at the Floral Building, Balboa Park.
For information call Mrs. Roland S. Hoyt, Chairman 296-2757

1. Arts and Crafts. Begins Sept. 15. 10 a.m. First and Third Tuesdays.
Instructor: Mrs. Arthur J. Mitchell.

2. Flower Arrangement Demonstration Class. Begins Aug. 31, 9:30 a.m.
Last Monday of Month. Extra Class on Aug. 3.
Instructor: Mrs. J. R. Kirkpatrick.

EDITORIAL

After three top editions of California Garden our Editor, Janet Richards, found her time too limited to continue. We bow low to the four parts of the compass in the hope that the God of Gardens will smile on us again.

Good News! Whaley House has a new sign, of appropriate design, stating hours and admission prices, thanks to the Torrey Pines chapter of the D.A.C. It is to be hoped that the Gateway to Presidio Park Fund will swing up soon. If Mr. Marston could *give* us this park surely we can at least secure for it a gracious entrance. Send donations, tax deductible, to Park and Recreations, Balboa Park.

In a sense this issue celebrates Roland Hoyt's recent Fellowship in the ASLA. Notice we featured TREES on both front and back covers! See how the reporter who interviewed Mr. Hoyt caught the philosophy behind the man in the reprint from the San Diego Union. The press release was quoted direct. And that article on the Jacaranda — its *pure* Hoyt.

To R. H., plants have always been more than the job. He has fought for them all the way, sometimes to preserve an outstanding specimen, like the Kate Session's Tipuana, sometimes to make better room for more trees by putting sidewalks next to curbs, sometimes, as with the Jacaranda, to bring color onto the streets, and sometimes to protect our natural resources, such as the Torrey Pines. His Subtropical book is a garden bible. As editor and contributor, he has been the backbone of CALIFORNIA GARDEN for years, because it seeks the same goals he strives for.

Mr. Hoyt does not need our words to add to his stature because, down the years, the living things that have been planted across the county because his hand put the circles on the drafting board, will keep on growing, to harbor birds that sing, to cast grateful shade, and to bear flowers that will brighten the heart of future generations.

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San Diego 1, Calif.

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50 YEARS AGO

The Exposition year of 1915 is drawing nearer. Today it is a few months ahead, tomorrow it will be but days, and with all our preparations we seem to have overlooked or rather not ever to have thought of a simple scheme for decoration that would insist upon the visitors' attention. It is a recognized fact that much repetition secures general notice—it is an axiom in advertising. Why has not San Diego adopted one flower as its badge for 1915? This flower should be cheap, easily raised from seed, a long bloomer and striking in color. The seed should be distributed free to every one with a garden, and each should be urged to grow some in a conspicuous part of his ground. The Parks should have patches of it everywhere. All public buildings should show it, and vacant lots all around over the city should be planted with it . . . and added to the specifications should be the proviso that this flower be distinctly western, San Diegan if possible, so that it will not incite the remark, "We grow that back in old Kentucky."

Alfred D. Robinson
Original editor of
CALIFORNIA GARDEN

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

June 4, 1964

Because of a heart condition my garden work has been very much limited so I see no reason for continuing your most interesting publication. I have so much enjoyed every issue I can't part with a single one and they do pile up. The Begonian and my Sunset, which is paid for for another year, will have to carry me through though I know I shall miss the CALIFORNIA GARDEN.

Mrs. C. D. Gilmore

P.S. Oh, dear! I just can't do this. Still have many plants that need care with the help of your wonderful articles. So—here is my $2.00 cash.

Mrs. G.

June 3, 1964

Enclosed find check for renewal of subscription to CALIFORNIA GARDEN and for three copies of the June-July issue 1964. There are several articles including Mr. Jerabek's article on street trees, Dr. Whittaker's Torrey Pines Association and Alice Clark's on epiphyllums which I want to pass on to others.

Congratulations to the San Diego Floral Association for maintaining such a high standard of community activities and particularly, its useful, interesting and stimulating publication.

Pearl Chase, Chairman
Plans and Planting Committee
Community Arts Association of
Santa Barbara, California.

June 14, 1964

Having discovered the "arboretum" aspect of the San Diego Zoo in the first of Mr. Jerabek's tours (Aug.-Sept. 1962) and relishing each subsequent issue of CALIFORNIA GARDEN, I finally returned to the Zoo today with a large contingent of my family and all of the four Tour issues. From the moment we passed through the entrance, I found myself guiding our group through each mesa and canyon like a "pro."

I was able to identify each animal exhibit by its unusual and dramatic landscaping. Then I easily led our group to the picnic area under the Chinese Flame trees near the huge rubber trees that contrast sharply with the frost-bitten specimens in our San Fernando Valley.

My family was delighted with all they saw in only four hours under my guidance. But the thanks rightfully goes to the good company of your articles, the real guide to all our enjoyment today.

(Mrs.) Sue Greenfield
Woodland Hills, Calif.

P.S. Enclosed is my $2.00 renewal, a few months in advance.

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GARDEN TOURS FOR MEMBERS

Garden tours will recess in August but two low-maintenance gardens offered for this "off-season" month should bring out the travelers and others who have neither time nor energy for heavy garden upkeep. Both places have been designed by landscape architects, Wimmer and Yamada, with this object in mind. Both gardens are on a downhill slope in Mission Hills with a view of the valley seen through a curtain of eucalyptus trees.

Sunday, September 27, 2 to 5 p.m.

Tour 1—Garden of Dr. and Mrs. Hodge Crabtree at 4521 Trias St.

Many young podocarpus or Fern Pine, weeping gray acacias and various pines frame the approach to this modern home designed by architects Liebhardt and Weston. Different types of ceanothus and ground covers hold back the slooping areas.

Tour 2—Garden of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Chernoff at 4522 Trias St.

The wood-paved entrance to this home by architect Lloyd Ruocco is overhung by a large specimen Victorian Box *Pittosporum undulatum* and groups of the lower *P. tobira.* To offset the roots of neighboring eucalyptus, seasonal flowering trees and shrubs are grown in large tubs in front of the high redwood fence that encloses the garden. There is an effective use of native toyons and an oak tree.

A Laurel Wreath for Walter Andersen for his landscape garden at the Fair, which won blue ribbon acclaim from all, and for his longtime cooperation on civic garden affairs.

More than two hundred enthusiastic gardeners turned out for the June visits to the fabulous rose garden of Mrs. Kenneally in Loma Portal and the delightful patio garden of Mr. Sinjen in Ocean Beach.

In July, Rosecroft Gardens on Point Loma were crowded with members who had planned ahead to take advantage of the special invitation of Mrs. Hunter and her son, Jerry, to enjoy the colorful night lighting of the landscaped grounds and the tuberous begonias at the height of their bloom.

You are invited to become a member of

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- Monthly meetings featuring outstanding speakers
- A monthly Sunday afternoon garden tour
- Subscription to CALIFORNIA GARDEN bi-monthly
- Use of a large horticultural library

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Balboa Park, San Diego 1, Calif.

Classification of Memberships:

Individual	$ 3.50 ☐
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Sustaining	$10.00 ☐
Contributing	$25.00 ☐

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CALIFORNIA GARDEN

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER, 1964
VOLUME 55 NO. 4

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CALIFORNIA GARDEN

Published Bi-Monthly by the
SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION
Floral Association Building, Balboa Park
Office hours: M-W-F, 10-3. Phone 232-5762
All rights reserved.
Advertising rates on request.

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Subscription $2.00 per year; Foreign countries $3.00. California Garden is on the list of publications authorized by the San Diego Retail Merchants Association.
Entered as second-class matter, Dec. 8, 1910 at the Post Office at San Diego, California under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Gardener's August-September

During hot-weather months the Southern California gardener enjoys a period of relaxation, an opportunity to sit back (in the shade) and enjoy the fruits of his labors. Summer-blooming annuals and perennials are at their height of bloom, as are flowering tropicals. Hopefully, garden pests are under control by this time, so that irrigation remains the only major task. So relax and enjoy your garden!

"Psychological gardening" is a neglected art, regretfully. A timely illustration would be the effect of coolness which can easily be achieved in the garden to relieve the heat of summer. Tones of blue and white combined with the greens of lawn and foliage have long been recognized as "cool colors." The sight and sound of running water takes the sting out of the hot sun and wind, especially when used in combination with a shady area created possibly by a fast-growing vine on a small arbor. Plants usually associated with water can heighten the effect. Many a new house on a raw site scraped out of a hillside has been transformed into a delightfully cool and refreshing spot by using these techniques, and in a short while.

There is a wide range of white-flowering plants and shrubs well known to gardeners, but blue is a color more difficult to find in more-or-less permanent plants. Suggestions would include shrub nierembergia, the improved "Santa Anita" felicia or agathaea, common plumbago and the rarer Chinese plumbago species, eranthemum, sollya, ceanothus, *Solanum wendlandii* and *S. rantonetti,* the durantas, stokesia, agapanthus, oxypetalum, thunbergias, salvias, veronicas, convolvulus mauretanicus, campanula, iochroma and passion vines.

The cutflower garden is now simultaneously in two stages: the last planting of "summer" annuals, and the first planting of winter and spring flowers and bulbs. One last planting of zinnias, asters, dwarf dahlias, celosia, marigolds and related warm-weather annuals will mature rapidly and give bloom often up until the holidays. And toward the end of this period our first plantings of cinerarias, stock, snaps, primroses, Iceland poppies, violas and pansies will go in—progressively from Labor Day in beach area until the end of the month as we go inland. Similarly, cool-season vegetables are often planted starting in September and reward with early and heavy crops if we don't have an excess of hot, dry weather in the fall.

Winter and spring bulbs will be coming into nurseries in late August and in September—some to be planted immediately, others to be refrigerated for a month or so before planting, and some which, with staggered plantings, will extend the regular blooming season. Freesias, anemones, leucojums, crocus and ranunculus usually are first planted and are followed by narcissus and daffodils, allium, sparaxis, ixias, Peruvian scilla, watsonias, tulips (after a month's refrigeration), grape and Roman hyacinths, ornithogalum, tritonias, and white callas.

Brave souls in cooler locations may try lily-of-the valley pips after refrigerating them, and experienced gardeners will continue planting glads throughout the year. Shade gardeners will be getting cyclamen bulblets under way, and collectors will be on the lookout for oxalis species, crinums, amarcrinums, galanthus, giant allium, tree dahlias, sprekelia and native calochortus.

Everyone will be well advised to purchase a large sack of bonemeal for *all* their bulbs, avoid manures in preparing soil, and follow competent instruction as to depth of planting.

An earlier reference to vines for quick shade brings to mind both the neglect of vines in contemporary plantings and their misuse—which doubtless has brought about much of the neglect. Landscape architects notoriously avoid the use of vines, other

than as cascades and ground covers, most likely because vines normally do impose some requirement for attention during the year. Yet without exception all the showplaces and botanical gardens feature vines as basic elements. Just remember that most vines can easily over-grow the spot you've chosen, and select your vines for scale in proportion to their location.

New and unusual vines now available to gardeners include a miniature cissus, *C. striata,* a tendril climber which also clings to rougher surfaces and spreads a delicate tracery of lush palmate leaves against a wall; The Royal Trumpet Vine, *Distictus riversii,* almost everblooming with violet trumpets and yellow throat and pest-free foliage, now generally available in larger nurseries; *Clerodendron thomsonae,* the Bleeding Heart Vine, everblooming away from the coast on a hot, sunny, wind-protected wall; *Muehlenbeckia complexa,* versatile in its application to cascades over seaside cliffs practically into the surf or on arbors for its delicate pendant foliage; *Manettia bicolor,* a vine for close-up viewing everblooming even in chilliest locations with tiny tangerine trumpets lipped with gold, restrained in habit for the entryway or intimate patio; *Campsis radicans,* an almost evergreen native of the midwest, wide-spreading, which in our climate produces finely cut pest-free foliage and blooms from Memorial Day until Thanksgiving with clusters of orange-bronze trumpets; *Tecoma mackenii,* Queen Anne Trumpet Vine, evergreen in frost-free areas, observed on tile roofs at the Del Mar Fairgrounds with clusters of veined pink trumpets from Memorial Day until the holidays. *Ipomaea 'Dawn,'* an evergreen morning glory with a profusion of blue flowers through the warm months; *Passiflora racemosa (princeps),* the variety with racemes of coral blossoms pendant from pest-free (unusual for the genus) foliage; *Asparagus falcatus,* ultimately a very large line-mass with feathery foliage only for the shadowy side of a building, but drougth-resistant and pest-free; *Oxera pulchella,* lush evergreen foliage and fragrant white trumpets for shelter, sunny locations and *Solanum wendlandii,* whose large flower heads give the truest blue of all vines, wide-spreading, and deciduous even in its own tropical native land. These vines can now be found commercially, are most rewarding, with an occasional cutting-back and thinning, and do more to soften the hard structure of our everyday life than anything except, possibly, music.

A word for a relatively new—and in our minds, essential—soil amendment. Shredded firbark, available under several brand names, is enabling us to grow many alkali-sensitive plants which five years ago were thought to be impossible in our Colorado-River-water areas. Rare begonias, ferns, rhododendrons, orchids—today are being grown without much concern for our old nemesis, alkali. Rhododendrons carried over from prior years produce better and harder foliage than those brought in from Oregon; our orchid growers are taking prizes over more fortunate growers who can irrigate with mountain water; a number of nurseries are propagating and growing their own azaleas, as opposed to the idea a few years ago that an azalea was an imported pot plant to be thrown out when bloom was past; and ferns, camellias, azaleas, gardenias, begonias, such shade plants as fuchsias, begonias, impatiens, streptocarpus, columneas and campanulas, all are responding to soil preparation incorporating shredded firbark as the basic amendment. The material is very acid, dries quickly, fluffs the soil and keeps it light due to its slow decomposition, and many growers feel that the tannin it contains in some way helps neutralize some of the alkaline salts.

Ed Ogden

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BOOKS

Reviewed by ALICE MARY GREER

How Plants Get Their Names: **L. H. Bailey. Dover Pub. Co., N.Y. 1963. 180 pages, paperbound, $1.15.**

The L. H. Bailey style of writing has always been unsurpassed by that of any other horticulturist; there is charm, poetic imagination, eloquence, scientific knowledge and accuracy, all accompanied by undoubted authority. There is nothing mundane, commonplace, nor categorical to lull the reader; every page pulls on because it gleams with the unappeasable ardor of the great L. H. Bailey. A scattering of sketches, drawings and reproductions adds interest. Type is good.

Six sections make up this inviting little book, each section valuable. Of exceptional interest is the chapter giving the usual meaning or significance of Latin adjectives when employed in botanical binomials, preceded by explanations, all to the end that the reader may find more joy in incorporating names of precision in customary speech and more satisfaction in spelling them. This is a very delightful section.

So here is a rare combination, a very clearly written, accurate handbook, an enthusiastic, literary treatise interwoven with scientific acumen, that should be in the library of all gardeners, amateur botanists, horticulturists and students of science.

The Complete Book Of Artificial Flowers: *Fruit And Foliage*: **Mimi Schmitt. Hearthside Press. 1964. $4.95.**

Again Hearthside Press has come out with a "first"—the only book so far published about that multi-million dollar business, artificial flowers. Mimi Lawrence Schmitt brings to the field of permanent flower arranging her experience as the owner of a large artificial flower shop and her skill in handling fresh materials for which she is very well known in the Connecticut region.

She tells how to make easily created permanent arrangements that are satisfying from every aspect.

As a flower arranger of live material and a flower show judge, I was prejudiced when I began reading the book. Now, I must confess, that after following Mimi Schmitt's work, my aversion to the usual run of permanent arrangements and their materials is much modified, all because the writer holds basically sound theories, presented in a convincing and entertaining manner. She stresses the art principles and elements, which are the backbone of her concepts and practices. She never misses a hand. The most fastidious flower arranger could find no fault in her executions.

The greatest objection; are we willing to substitute artificial media for live material? Examine some of the current flower show schedules; there are listed classes featuring artificial materials. So we may be forced to change our song. Confess; haven't you used bunches of artificial grapes or a pear to give the necessary touch to an arrangement?

Skilled arrangers, amateurs allergic to native plants, (bless them) interior designers, florists, will find Mimi Schmitt a helpful guide. Those who, in the beginning, may scoff, will later applaud.

Flower Arranging: **Loret Swift, Arco Publishing Co., 1960. 144 pages. $2.50.**

Because flower arrangement books are virtually a drug on the market, it would seem hard to find a new approach to the subject, yet Loret Swift has found one. She divides her book into two parts. The first part gives details on the various elements and principles involved in creating an arrangement. The second part consists of an album of arrangements, devoted to floral designs for specific occasions and places, dried arrangements, window boxes, corsages.

To you this may be just another flower arrangement book, but to others it may be a very helpful, practical guide and "self teacher."

How To Make Gardening Fun: **Dr. George and Nora Jorgenson. Exposition Press, New York, 1963. 86 pages, $3.00**

In a rather mundane appearing little book 86 pages long, Dr. George and Nora Jorgenson attempt to make gardening appear fun simply by the use of leaf feeding.

An outline of the author's procedures with various kinds of plants found in the average backyard garden, flowers, fruits, vegetables, is helpful. All plant life responds to foliar feeding by a more satisfying growth and yield impetus. The flavor and tenderness of fruits and vegetables are vastly stepped up.

Complete Guide To Gardening. **Arco Publishing Co. 1948. $2.50.**

A very well-balanced book, enlivened with fine illustrations, lives up to its title, "complete."

There is much, for the beginner. For specialists and the experienced gardener there are discussions of herb gardens, espaliering and plant diseases.

The Gardener's Year: **Carel Capek. Dover Publications, 1963. Translated from the Czech by M. and R. Weatherall, 111 pages, paperbound, $1.00.**

This easily-handled little book with 59 delightfully whimsical line drawings done by Josef Capek, has a mellowness and charm that places it in the class of easy, light, humorous garden literature . . . granted that at times the humor seems forced and tiresome.

Beginning with uncompromising January and continuing through the vagaries of a gardener's cycle, the chronicle ends with December, when "only now, when the garden is buried in snow, does he remember that he has forgotten something; to look at it."

This is a book that can be read with pleasure — not for information — by either arm or arm-clair gardeners.

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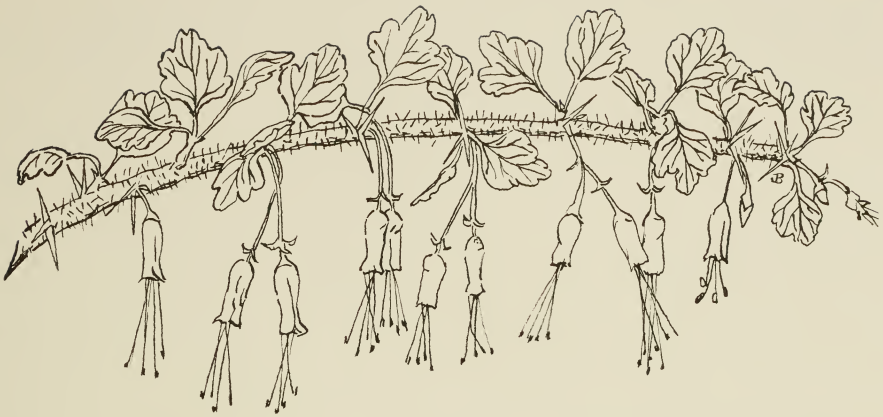


SKETCHES BY THE AUTHOR

THREE NATIVE SPECIES OF RIBES

FOR CALIFORNIA GARDENS

Fuchsia-flowered Gooseberry

By Jacqueline Broughton

Currants and Gooseberries flower in the spring and have attractive foliage throughout the year. The berries of currants are smooth and those of gooseberries are spiny but both groups belong to the genus Ribes. Three species that have been grown in the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden for several years and are excellent plants for home gardens are Chaparral Currant, Fuchsia-flowered Gooseberry and Evergreen Currant.

Fuchsia-flowered Gooseberry, *Ribes speciosum* is one of the earliest of the spring-flowering plants. This gooseberry is a partly deciduous shrub, about three to six feet tall. The rounded leaves, more or less three-lobed, are bright green above and somewhat paler beneath. Its long, spreading branches are tawny in color, bristly along their length, and spiny at the nodes. However, the covering on the stems does not detract from the beauty of the flowers. They are bright scarlet bells, about an inch long, that hang singly or in small groups along at least half the length of the branches. The red berries are half an inch in diameter and very bristly.

Fuchsia-flowered Gooseberry grows in shaded canyons at low elevations and occurs in a band along the coast from Santa Clara County to Baja California.

It is an excellent plant for home gardens, being both drought and heat tolerant and adapted to almost any soil. Fuchsia-flowered Gooseberry is rapid growing and most successful in full or part shade. Summer watering is preferred to maintain an evergreen condition. If not watered this plant will lose its leaves in the summer. It may be used as an accent, a specimen or a low barrier. The shiny green leaves are attractive throughout the year and the splash of red flowers in early spring is a welcome touch.

Ribes speciosum was first collected by Dr. Menzies of the Vancouver Expedition. Seed was later taken by Dr. Collie, surgeon to the Beechey Expedition, and the plant was brought into cultivation in 1828.

One species, interesting because it is quite unlike other currants, is *Ribes viburnifolium,* Evergreen Currant. This is a low shrub with spreading, cane-like branches. Although it is rarely more than two feet tall, it may be as much as eight feet in diameter. The wine-red stems contrast with the dark, glossy green leaves which are oval in outline and quite fragrant. The leaves of many other currants are lobed or cut; these are nearly entire. Its deep rose flowers, produced on short branches along the arching stems, are small but numerous, and give the plant a copper-colored cast in early spring.

Evergreen Currant is native to chaparral and canyons of Santa Catalina Island and Baja California. It was first collected in Todos Santos Bay in Lower California and it was first grown in England from seed received

in 1897. The probable collector of this seed was Mrs. Trask, an early resident of Santa Catalina Island. She reported that this plant — "thrives in all parts of the island in moist places."

Since 1897 Evergreen Currant has been grown occasionally in gardens. It is rapid growing, drought tolerant and well suited to coastal regions. Growth is best if it is planted in part or full shade. In full sunlight it is more compact but it is also subject to yellowing in the summer. Some water in the summer is necessary to maintain the evergreen condition. Rooting will occur along the stems and erect shoots should be pegged down for a uniform ground cover. Evergreen Currant may be used on banks, as a high ground cover or as a facer. It grows well under oaks.

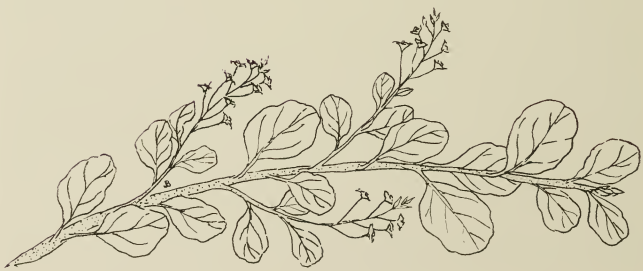
Chaparral Currant, *Ribes malvaceum* is an erect, deciduous shrub that becomes three to seven feet high. The leaves have a spicy smell, are rounded in outline and may be three to five lobed. They are rather thick and roughened and have gland-tipped hairs that give the plant a dull green color. The flowers, which are pale pink and about half an inch long, occur near the tips of drooping branches. These produce rounded purple-black berries covered with a waxy substance. Since the berries are excellent bird food, this plant is recommended to those who wish to attract birds to the garden.

Chaparral Currant is a hardy garden plant. It grows moderately rapidly when planted in part sun and, although drought tolerant, it will not be harmed by summer watering. It provides contrast in a mixed planting or may be used as an erect filler.

In the wild, Chaparral Currant grows in dry wooded areas or on open hillsides below 2,500 feet. It and its varieties inhabit both the inner and outer coast ranges from Tehama County to Baja California.

Most of the native currants and gooseberries can be used in the preparation of pancake syrup and wild fruit butter. The spines on gooseberries dissolve when cooked and no special cleaning treatment is necessary.

CHAPARRAL CURRANT



EVERGREEN CURRANT

In Jacqueline Broughton, Educational Coordinator for the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, readers have "struck gold" for she has promised more articles on native plants.

A Garden

Bright With Flowers

By Mary Marston

Photograph by Peter Richards

Because most of my garden is given up to trees, grass and shrubbery I like to have the secluded formal section bright with flowers.

Here a rectangular lawn is surrounded by beds of low-growing flowering shrubs, such as white diosma, pink rapheolepis, yellow tecoma, lantana and hypericum. Growing among them are gladioli, coreopsis, marguerites, red florabundas and other hardy perennials. In the rose bed a heliotrope blooms beside a Picture rose and plumbago tumbles over the wall to mingle with the pink blossoms of Queen Elizabeth rose.

In the middle of the lawn is a small stone fountain, which instead of spouting water overflows with pink ivy geranium and is encircled by pots of pink, white and blue petunias.

Beside the high brick wall on the north my neighbors' tall trees make a beautiful background for the garden. The wall fountain in the center, with its blue and white jars on either side and its pots of petunias on the rim of the basin, is an important note in the landscape plan.

On the west is a garden house, sheltered by a jacaranda on one side and a yellow-flowering *Stanolobium stans* on the other. Wide steps on the east lead down to a terrace that runs the entire length of the formal garden. These are features of the plan that make the garden attractive and livable.

In the cutting beds on the south side delphineums flourish. Birds hop about on the lawn and sing in the trees. My garden is a gay and lovely place in the month of June. Perhaps it will be even gayer when the summer flowers, cosmos, zinnias and dahlias flaunt their colors among the blue delphineums and perhaps lovelier still in the autumn when the chrysanthemums, bronze, gold and ruby red, come into bloom.

Mary G. Marston

This is the garden of a family with a lifetime interest in horticulture. George Marston not only "fathered" Balboa Park but he also planned and planted Presidio Park as a priceless gift to the city.

Time increases the beauty of the shrubbs and trees around the well planned gardens of his home while Miss Marston keeps the picture glowing with colorful flower accents.

The Carnation

By Alice Rainford

Since the carnation is San Diego's official flower it behooves us to learn all we can about it.

The carnation belongs to the Dianthus family which includes Carnations, Grass Pinks, Sweet Williams and others. The main ancestor of the Carnation we know is *Dianthus caryophyllus,* or Clove Pink. Larger sizes and more petals have been developed by American and English hybridizers from wild varieties. The most fragrant Dianthus are the small species. *Dianthus plumarius,* often called Grass pink, China or India pink, is more like the original wild type. They all are small-leaved, low-growing plants suitable for edging walks. They are easily grown from seed. Though one cannot be certain of colors in seedlings they often produce delightful surprises.

There are many forms and colors in the wild varieties of Europe while we only have one specie in America. Not many are native to Great Britain but it is thought that they were imported by the Normans or else they came in the Norman (Caen) stone from which the first castles were built. They have become naturalized throughout England. Some have very tiny leaves and are almost turf-like without the joints of the ordinary carnation. One small type called Maiden Pink is so fragrant that Lord Bacon ordered it planted by the paths "where the ladies' robes would brush against them as they walked in the gardens stirring up a divine fragrance."

Carnation was originally spelled Coronation because it was so well adapted for use in making crowns, garlands, and wreaths used in royal festivities. It was also called Crownation in some of the old books. Olive Percival, of Pasadena, in her book on "Our Old Fashioned Flowers," says that the early writers, Gerard, Parkinson and Ellacombe used many other names: Carnadine, Gilliflower, Pageant Flower, Incarnation, Gillover, Flower of Jove, Dainty Lady and Clove of Paradise. The most intriguing name of all is "Sops in Wine." Because of its spicy odor the flower was actually used to add flavor to wine and beer.

Carnations were so popular in the early seventeenth century that, when a very large fragrant variety was imported by Nicholas Leate, it caused great excitement. Leate was a wealthy business man whose agents travelled constantly and had orders not to fail to secure any unusual flower for his gardens. Although he was a member of the Worshipful Order of Iron Mongers (he must have been the Big Steel man of his day) he spent much of his time

One famous carnation, the Great Harwich, is described by Parkinson as a great old English sort that "riseth up with a goodly stem thickly set with joints and from each joint come two long leaves twining and winding about the stem two or three times." The stem was two feet long with a big green "husk" on top, from which came forth a very large deep pink double blossom, almost red, with splashes and markings of lighter color.

Writers of the seventeenth century declare that a cordial made from the red Clove Pink was sold in the apothecary shops of London. Gerard mentions "a conserve made of clove gilliflowers is exceedingly cordial and doth comfort the heart being eaten now and then." Esther Singleton writes that a carnation vinegar was valued as a remedy for the plague.

Queeen Elizabeth was so fond of her flowers and gardens that she kept a woman constantly employed in arranging them in her apartments. It is said that she regarded the cordial as the "delight of the human race." In reproducing the Shakespeare garden in 1921 a great effort was made to follow the original plan. Plants were donated from great estates and little children brought grass pinks, thyme and other plants needed for borders from their cottage gardens.

Esther Singleton's book "The Shakespeare Garden" tells of a "Mask of Flowers" produced by the "Gentlemen of Gray's Inn" for the Earl of Somerset's wedding to the daughter of the Earl of Suffolk. "When the curtains were drawn was seen a garden of glorious and strange beauty,
fountain raised on four pedestals of silver "on the tops whereof strode four silver figures which supported a bowl in circuit four and twenty foot and was raised nine feet from the ground."

The garden walks were bordered with hedges and the beds filled with flowers many of them artificial. In the corners of each bed large jars were filled with carnations. The walls about the garden were painted to look like brick and at the back was a mount with an arbor thirty-three feet long and twenty feet high covered with vines of honeysuckle and eglantine. doubt if Hollywood ever produced a more gorgeous display.

In 1906 the Sievers Brothers of San Francisco and Oakland brought out a great number of choice carnations. I recall 'Elsie Ferguson,' an exceptionally fine brilliant yellow with red markings and there was an apricot-tinted one that was very large. So far as I know they are not listed now, which reminds me that, around 1915, Mr. Morley remarked that fashions in flowers and plants revive about every fifty years. At that time he was referring to the renewed interest in succulents which everyone was collecting when he was a lad in England half a century earlier.

Well, the pendulum swings again to carnations for San Diego, but now the crowns are leis. Actually, this county has always been a center for the commercial growing of these flowers. Some will recall a dentist, Dr. Oscar Gabriel of Encinitas who did some very fine hybridizing of carnations thirty years ago. Now the point is to plant and enjoy this fragrant flower with the same zest as did the Elizabethans of long ago.

When she thinks on flowers, Alice Rainford. First Florist to the San Diegans of fifty years ago, thinks on the traditional beauty behind them.

Quaint Beliefs of Philippine Flower Growers

By Juanito V. Jabat

In the United States flower growers may plant any kind of flower in any place and at any time they please. This is not true in the Philippines. It's not that democracy is dead in this former American territory; it's just that certain groups of Filipinos in certain parts of the Islands adhere to certain beliefs whenever they plant flowers.

Some of these beliefs are clearly absurd, others are funny, and still others sound completely foolish; but no matter what you and I may think of them, Filipino flower growers firmly believe in them as the "key" to their success in their flower growing business (or hobby) or as a "factor" that may lead them to either blissful or woeful living.

Take, for instance, the inhabitants of Supang, a small village on Guimaras Island in Southern Philippines. These people plant roses only when there is a full moon. They believe that doing this would bring about durable plants and beautifully developed flowers. It is a silly belief, perhaps, but the majority of flower shop operators are agreed that some of the best roses in the Philippines can be found in the flower plantations of Supang village.

To the superstitious flower growers in Arevalo, Iloilo province, the stars play a no mean role in one's success or failure in flower growing. They believe, for example, that bougainvillas would bloom more copiously when planted on the morning following a star-studded night. They also believe that azucenas, which grow quite abundantly in the Islands, would bear more fragrant flowers when planted in the evening under a completely starless sky. Again, these superstitious theories sound absurd, but Arevaloans claim that had it not been for their adherence to these theories, their town would not have gained the title it now proudly sports—"The Flower Garden of Iloilo Province."

In the small village of Palo, Leyte province, most flower growers do not plant violets during the Lenten season. The villagers claim that to do so is to court misfortune. They cannot give any reasonable explanation, but they claim that a lot of flower growers in the village who deliberately went against the "rule" suffered untold misfortunes, including incurable ailments, serious accidents, and even death.

However, flower growers in Nueva Valencia, Iloilo province, think this belief is nonsensical. Unlike the Palo villagers, they do plant violets during Lent—but while they do they keep making loud but artificial sobs, which the Palo flower growers consider as more nonsensical than their own belief. Why the artificial sobs? The villagers themselves don't know why they have to break into sobs when planting violets during Lent.

It is customary among the flower growers in the village of Banilad, Neuva Viscaya province, to plant flowers only during high tide. They say it makes flowers bloom more beautifully and more long-lastingly. However, in Canla-on, Negros Oriental province, flower growers don't wait for the high tide. They plant flowers anytime of the day but when they do they make sure that they are thoroughly drenched, or else the plants wouldn't produce beautiful blooms.

The village folks of Tanza, Cavite province, do not plant frangipanis—known as calachuchis in the Philippines—in their yards because they believe that these plants are precursors of death. In view of this frightful belief, frangipanis cannot be found in any place in Tanza except in the village cemetery and in the yard of the village church.

In some places in Iloilo province, it is believed that a woman who plants frangipanis is bound to become an old maid!

In Talusan, a mountain village in Bukidnon province, a man whose wife is pregnant is *prohibited* to plant any flower with prickly stems. Why? Because the villagers believe that a pregnant woman whose husband dares to plant prickly-stemmed flowers is liable to have a difficult and painful delivery. Most Talusan husbands know this is plain superstition but they resolutely stick to it because, they say, "there's nothing to lose if we adhere to it."

In order that their daisies would grow sturdy and resistant to plant diseases, daisy growers in Bato, Cebu province, rest upon their haunches when they go a-planting daisies. So that it is not uncommon to see daisy planters in Bato wearing jute sack pants, the seats of which are heavily reinforced with canvas, when they are planting their favorite flower.

Hibiscus, the state flower of Hawaii, is also common in the Philippines, where it is called gummamela. But while Hawaiians plant this flower sans any ridiculous rules, superstitious Filipinos have a rule regarding its planting which might make you smile. The flower growers in Gusoan, Leon, Iloilo province, for instance, keep laughing aloud while they plant gummamelas in their backyards. They believe that doing this would force the plants to bloom profusely.

Perhaps, the strangest — call it the craziest, if you may — Philippine belief about flower planting is that of the people of Busuanga Island, near Mindoro. The flower growers among these people perform an odd ceremony, highlighted by queer dances and songs, before planting any kind of flower. During the ceremony, the flowers that are to be planted are placed on a short-legged bamboo table surrounded with lighted candles. The ritual lasts for about 30 minutes. The islanders believe that this odd ceremony is done to assure themselves of an abundant flower harvest.

These are only a few of the many Philippine beliefs concerning the planting of flowers. To the non-superstitious, these beliefs are, as I said earlier, absurd, funny, and/or foolish: but Filipino flower growers who believe in them adhere to them unswervingly and, in fact, they attribute to these beliefs whatever success they might have attained.

Some American gardeners also claim success with the "Moon phase" plantings of our Philippine friends.

ROLAND HOYT RECOMMENDS

THE JACARANDA

Here is a flowering tree of elegance and all the renderings of that word, clarity, grace, distinction, felicity, with restraint included for measure and purity of decorum that fit it for human use. It is sometimes known as Green-ebony, but is generally called simply Jacaranda with the emphasis on the third syllable. According to Saunders, the South American Indians who actually named the tree, placed the weight on the last syllable. The species *J. mimosifolia* and *J. ovalifolia* appear in horticultural literature but gardeners may consider both as synonomous with *J. acutifolia.*

The tree is of open, irregular structure to a roundish head of rather loose texture at, eventually, some 50 feet under best culture and site conditions. The young specimen may require a little pruning to determine the ultimate shape, but the mature form will be found to have worked the problem out pretty well by itself, with discrimination and individuality . . . as with the human ego. It is an all-round tree for service almost everywhere in the domestic landscape, lawn or patio and especially as a street tree where there is any chance for survival.

The Jacaranda affords a very substantial, but not a dense shade all during the heat of the year, then opens to winter for sun-heat to thaw through to the earth for whatever there wants warmth, plant or man. The limbs and branches at this time are found to have something of the quality of an oriental print . . . for those who will see. There is nothing naked about this time and branching. It, the tree, expresses the season as it does, in fact, the complete cycle of life and living. This is too often overlooked in subtropical regions in a ridiculous, trivial and puerile search for eternal summer.

The shedding of the lacy, fern-like foliage comes sometimes in February or March when the flower buds are beginning to show, the only shabby moment of the year when the leaves are pushing off . . . "remnants of glory." A long wait then is no more than a reminder of so many good things, pleasured more, and more deeply enjoyed under anticipation. This is a kind of dawdling, deferment of action, a matter of standing over or waiting for warmth, the blooming finally, June into July in California, earlier in Florida. A rare spectacle then presents color over a few weeks, a flowering of exquisite quality and finally a fallout of the blue, a solid carpet over the earth . . . sweep only the walks. Hattie Rumbleshucks in CALIFORNIA GARDEN of September, 1941 thinks "the glory of the 'jac' doesn't end with the falling flowers and that people as is gardeners will walk around the poor fallen debris with a prayer in their hearts to the Lord and sheer thanks for such beauty . . . other people git a broom."

This aristocrat, surprisingly, is a stout and sturdy individual unusually persevering under hardship as well as prosperity, which is uncommon for a plant of such exotic beauty. While it accepts good moisture, it will be more floriferous if grown on the dry side and actually survives with roots completely cramped or otherwise mutilated by external abuse. It is not demanding as to soil, but prefers a fertile, sandy loam of some depth when it will be seen at its best. There are no diseases and no insect pests of

Continued on page 15

Alfred Hottes

VERDANT VISION

Will Turn Community Concourse into Garden Gem

By Michael O'Connor

Landscaping the Community Concourse could be compared to shopping for accessories to match a $10,000 mink coat.

Now rising from the heart of downtown, the $21 million concourse is an investment of ideas and dreams transferred into steel, concrete and glass.

Adding the final touches necessary to make it a living part of the city requires the objectivity of a scientist and the artistic flair of a poet.

Roland Hoyt, landscape architect, has both.

A Californian since 1921, he holds a bachelor's degree in horticulture from Iowa State University and studied for two years at the Harvard School of Design.

In more than a year of work, he has analyzed the architecture of the four main buildings. He has sifted the soil on which they stand. And he has spent months rubbing elbows with weekend gardeners in nurseries studying specimens.

What grows around each building, he says, must complement and accent both the design and the purpose of the structure.

An example of his technique involves the $4 million Civic Theatre.

"The theatre is a beautiful building," Hoyt said as he thumbed through a stack of blueprints. "Not just any tree can grow next to it.

"We must use a stately specimen that will accent its lines . . . with facile leaves that will move in the slightest breeze."

That type of tree, Hoyt believes, is the Podocarpus, one of 17 different varieties of trees he has selected for the overall area.

Theater audiences will learn to know the Podocarpus well. Hoyt visualizes several of them extending along the north entrance leading to a buffer of Chinese Junipers and Magnolias between the interior Concourse Plaza and the open intersection outside.

Hoyt believes trees are an important part of his plan not only as a tone-setter for the concourse but as a landscaping stimulus to the entire surrounding downtown area.

With this thought in mind he hopes that a perimeter of trees around the concourse—either Holly Oak or Podocarpus—will be extended to the sidewalks of other streets in the future.

"People remember a city for its trees," he noted, "and San Diego doesn't have enough of them."

The Hoyt plan of finding the tree to fit the building also will be apparent to persons entering either the Convention Hall or Administration Building from C Street. He has obtained 15 Copper Loquat specimens and many will be used here to accent the structures with a foliage that is deep green in summer and bronze in winter.

Nearby, the "theatre corner," C Street and 3rd Avenue, will be a showplace for more reasons than the obvious. It is there he envisions one of the largest trees, a Magnolia, extending more than 20 feet to "anchor" the corner.

The Magnolia, Hoyt said, is an example of another problem facing a landscaper in tree-starved San Diego.

"There are no big tree nurseries in San Diego," he said. "And on a job like this you must have big trees."

Not ready to settle for less than what he wants, Hoyt has turned detective in visiting scores of nurseries throughout Southern California.

It was on one of these trips that he found the "theatre corner" Magnolia at the Del Amo nursery in Compton. By coincidence, it was at Del Amo where he obtained his first job in California.

The absolute necessity for big trees was pointed out by Hoyt as he explained the design of the 14-story Administration building, largest structure in the concourse, which has unembellished east and west walls.

Sure and its the poetic flair of Mr. O'Connor himself that makes this Roland Hoyt story, reprinted from the San Diego Union, so discerning. And Mr. Flynn's action shot wins more blarney.

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Hoyt plans to use large Sugar Gum Eucalyptus which will hug the sides for a distance of 75 to 100 feet, erupting in lush umbrella-shaped foliage.

Although Hoyt emphasizes his trees, the public will have a field day examining and enjoying the 56 varieties of shrubs and 18 types of ground cover in hundreds of locations.

To prove his point that nature—through landscaping—adds enjoyment to physical surroundings, Hoyt plans to have visitors in the mood even before they leave their automobiles in the 11-level parking garage.

It is there he has designed a garden of potted seasonal plants which will be brought to the center core—and visible to incoming and outgoing motorists — at the height of their bloom. Around them will be seven Irish Yew trees planted in a swirl to blend with the driving lanes.

All in all, it amounts to a show of color that no one will want to miss.

Continued from page 12

note . . . only aphids at budding time which may be flushed off a young tree with hose-water or other contact spray, left to the ladybugs when beyond reach. The tree takes as much as ten degrees of frost without material damage and will return as a multi-stemmed, blooming affair after a freeze.

One encounters ecstatic and enraptured accounts of the flowering of these trees in Rio de Janiero and the cooler parts of South America and when one knows of oddments and portions of streets in Southern California, where the amplitude of color and generous, friendly greenery meet above as an arched dome of incredible beauty, it is to wonder why such an eminently practical and utterly handsome tree is not seen more often. Look if you will for such as above. Stand there in the shadow of beatitude and know the power and strength to be found in this gratification.

This is one tree to afford any living place, area or region the heights of publicity, be it a garden, a block in the community or the city itself. It shocks, and shakes one loose from the commonplace.

The drawing by Alfred Hottes shows the large loose truss of the flower, the doubly compound leaf with sharply tipped leaflet. There is the hard, flat capsule that finds uses in indoor decoration and in arrangements, a winged nutlet and a cross-section of the floret.

San Diego Union Staff Photo by Joseph Flynn

From: ASLA Press Room, July 1, 1964

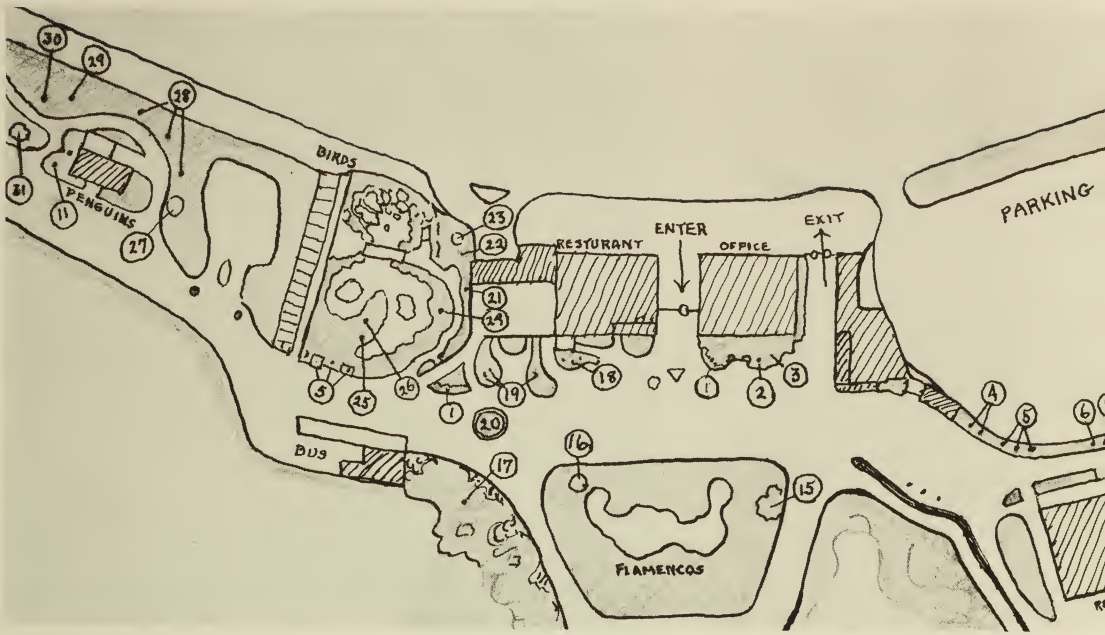
Roland S. Hoyt of San Diego, California, was today elected a Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects at ceremonies held in conjunction with the organization's annual meeting in Dallas, Texas.

Mr. Hoyt, a native of Iowa City, Iowa, has practiced landscape architecture in San Diego for 38 years. A consultant for the City Planning Department for 15 years, he has served as landscape architect for such important local projects as the Mission Bay Park and Recreation Area. Recent work includes the Mission Valley Center, the Salk Institute for Biology and the Centre City Concourse in San Diego. He has also been designated to design a master landscape plan for San Diego State University.

The first graduate of the School of Landscape Architecture at Iowa State University in 1915, Mr. Hoyt served as aide-de-camp to General William D. Beach, Commanding General of the 88th Division in France during World War I. Following the war, he worked with America's oldest landscape architectural firm, Olmsted Brothers, on the design of Palos Verdes Estates and later participated in the design of Presidio Park in San Diego.

A past editor of the California Garden Magazine, Mr. Hoyt is the author of "Ornamental Plants for Subtropical Regions" and a frequent contributor to leading garden magazines.

Fellowship in the American Society of Landscape Architects, conferred only upon the profession's most outstanding practitioners, is the organization's highest honor. Founded in 1899, the ASLA is today comprised of over 2,300 professional landscape architects. National headquarters are at 2000 K Street in Washington, D.C.



KEY TO ZOO PLANT MAP

1. *Caleocephalus browni.* Cushion Bush
2. *Trithrinax acanthocana,* Palm
3. *Strelitzia regina.* Bird-of-Paradise
4. *Metrosideros tomentosa.* New Zealand Christmas Tree
5. *Callistemon viminalis.* Weeping Bottlebrush
6. *Iochroma tubulosum.* Columbian Violet Bush
7. *Eugenia jambos.* Rose Apple
8. *Melaleuca genistifolia.* White Fleece Tree
9. *Homalocladium platycladum.* Ribbon Bush
10. *Casimiroa edulis.* White Sapote Tree
11. *Koelreutaria hipinnata.* Bougainvillea Golden Rain Tree
12. *Eucalyptus mortoniana.* Morton's E.
13. *Calodendron capense.* Cape Chestnut
14. *Eucalyptus multiflora.* E. robusta
15. *Alpinis speciosa.* Shell Ginger
16. *Beaucarnea recurvata.* Elephant's Foot
17. *Jacaranda acutifolia.* Green Ebony
18. *Gardenia thunbergia*
19. *Draceana draco.* Dragon Tree
20. *Eucalyptus cladocalyx.* Sugar Gum
21. *Laurus nobilis.* Sweet Bay
22. *Chorisia speciosa.* Floss Silk
23. *Strelitzia nicolai.* Giant Bird-of-Paradise
24. *Ochna multiflora.* Mickey Mouse Plant
25. *Corokia cotoneaster*
26. *Chiranthodendron platanoides.* Devil's Hand Flower
27. *Dombeya wallichi.* Pink Ball Tree
28. *Olea europa.* Common Olive
29. *Araucaria bidwilli.* Bunya-Bunya Pine
30. *Caesalpinia achinata.* Brazil Wood
31. *Cistus purpureus.* Orchid-spot Rock Rose

PLANT of the

by Chauncy I. Jerabek

Throughout the Zoo, thousands of plants, from trees to ground covers, are used to present the animals in their natural settings; often the plants are from the same habitat. To keep this the most outstanding Zoological Garden in the world new animals are brought in constantly, which means that the enclosures must be remodeled or extended and the plant life must also be moved or replaced. As a result, not all the specimens remain where I describe them and many new plants are small. Despite the fact that this is a Zoo, not an Arboretum, one must admit that it is quite a Botanical Garden!

In this article I have selected plants for different reasons. Some are noted

TOUR ZOO

with Map by A.M.C.

When you have finished this tour, think of the great variety of plant shapes, sizes, textures and colors you have seen and the many far-away places that have contributed both animals and plants to the Zoo. Think of the ingenuity, tenacity, flexibility and understanding Mr. Tim Aller must possess to create this Zoo Eden and make it thrive. Think of Director Charles Schroeder who is so vitally interested in promoting a Zoological Garden in its fullest sense: a healthy, educational complementary combination of living beauty from both animal and plant kingdoms.

In the end you will be sure to "think" thanks to Mr. C. I. Jerabek, the San Diego Tree Man, for his inimitable way of making plants come alive. In this, his Fifth Zoo Plant Tour, "Jerry" tries again to persuade visitors to become acquainted with more new and interesting plant materials and their growth habits at the Zoo and thus be better able to use them to improve their own home surroundings — like the old saw of sauce for goose and ganders, what?

for the beauty of their leaves, flowers or seed-pods, or all three. (Where the plants pointed out are not fully developed, I may give the location of mature examples elsewhere.) Some plants have curious forms or stories of special interest connected with them. In still other cases I want to draw attention to specimens that have possibilities that should be better known.

This tour should be easy. Follow the sequence of numbers on the map. Use the "Key" to locate the number and the name that follows it. Read the description of the plant under its number in the body of the article. Most plants in the Zoo are labeled with both common and scientific names so you can check them.

The Dragon Tree, *Dracaena draco.* (see Page 20).

Begin this trip at the main gate. Edging the plant bed at your left and in many other places in the Zoo you will see the gray Cushion Bush, (1) *Calocephalus browni,* from Australia. When given a fairly dry well-drained location this plant builds up silvery mounds of foliage covered with yellow button blooms in mid-summer.

Low down, just past the two bronze gorillas, is an interesting palm (2) *Trithrinax acanthocoma,* from South Brazil. A slow grower, it is now only two feet high but it may reach 12 feet. The solitary trunk covered with long spines is three to four inches thick. The palmate leaves are three feet across. Look under the leaves to see the thorns and the intricate weblike covering formed by the leaf bases. That beautiful fibrous pattern is the distinctive feature on this small palm. The creamy white flower stalks, up to two feet long, are followed by attractive globular yellow-green fruit about ¾ inch thick. There are two excellent specimens in the Government Experimental Station on Torrey Pines Mesa.

To the right of the palm is a large clump of (3) *Strelitzia Regina,* Bird-of-Paradise Flower, which belongs to the Banana family. Stout canna-like leaves of glaucous green on long stems spring from a ground clump. The flowers are born on a scape 2 to 4 feet tall, sometimes branching at the top. The bright orange sepals stand above the purple arrow-shaped stigmas that open a few at a time, like a feathered cockade above the highly colored spathe or throat of the "bird." This gorgeous plant will be seen all over the Zoo. It grows so easily in San Diego that it seems its blooms should have been made the official flower.

Bear south on the main path to the plants bordering the parking lot fence. The bushy tree-like plant, (4) *Metrosideros tomentosa,* called the New Zealand Christmas Tree because it blooms at that season there, while here it puts on its show of clusters of bright red staminate flowers in early summer. Shining olive-green leaves with felted backs, are another attraction. Exceptionally fine by the sea as in these addresses in La Jolla: 7865 El Paseo Grande, 1831 and 6040 Camino de la Costa, 338 Via del Norte and 471 Rosemont.

A colorful plant, for our next consideration, is (5) *Callistemon viminalis,* Weeping Bottlebrush, a graceful drooping tree from Australia. It has red filaments on elongated corky stems during the warm months. Its weeping form makes it a graceful shrub or tall filler. It is fine for dry areas and will tolerate poor soil.

Drawing by Dorothy Landon

Calodendron Capense, Cape Chestnut.

Another gay shrub, a tall 8 feet high, has many branches of downy oval-oblong greyish-green leaves and drooping terminal clusters of tubular cyaneus-blue flowers, like glazed porcelain. Check the label for (6) *Iochroma tubulosum,* also called *I. cyaneum* or Colombian Violet Bush, from Central and South America. It belongs to the Potato family.

Following is (7) *Eugenia jambos,* the Rose Apple of East India. In ample space it forms a handsome medium-sized evergreen tree. When young, the slender pointed leaves are pinkish or wine colored, later they turn a dark shiny green. Showy shaving-brush flowers, greenish-white, develop ovoid or globose fruits, pale yellow or blush-pink, up to 2 inches in size with one to three brown seeds. As many as 7 to 8 plants may come from

Drawing by Dorothy Landon

Gardenia Thunbergia

each single polyembryonic seed. The flesh has a rose-like aroma and taste, generally used to flavor jams

The next tree, noticeable for its white trunk, is (8) *Melaleuca genistifolia,* White Fleece Tree from Australia. It has thick white bark, small prickly leaves and many white bottlebrush flowers that leave the stems studded with seed growths.

Observe the odd plant, only three feet high, with flattened branches. Commonly known as Ribbon Bush, Centipede or Tapeworm plant (9) *Homalocladium platycladum* is a native of the Solomon Islands. It is sometimes an erect, but usually a scrambling shrub with flat jointed glossy light green stems about ½ inch wide. At the extreme edges of these flattened parts come tiny white flowers, red in the bud, followed by deep red or purplish berry-like bodies containing a lone seed. Just to be contrary, sometimes small lanceolate leaves that are usually absent, appear, and sometimes the flattish stems are round.

Near the end of this link fence are two trees with a number of trunks. In this city (10) *Casimiroa edulis,* the White Sapote, grows medium high. The palmate light-green leaves are compounded of five leaflets of various sizes. Small inconspicuous greenish-yellow flowers are followed by ovoid fruits up to 3 inches across when mature. An unusual item is that fruits at different stages of growth as well as blossoms may be seen on the tree at the same time. When ripe the luscious sweet fruit has creamy or yellowish pulp embedded with 2 to 5 seeds. The leaves, dry or fresh, make a tea that is good for high blood pressure. See 3404 Front Street for another Sapote.

The 24 trees that form a shady canopy over the picnic tables on the left are (11) *Koelreutaria bipinnate,* Chinese Lantern or Golden Rain Tree of Formosa. This small deciduous tree rarely grows over 20 feet high. During the warmer months it is covered with handsome fern-like leaves. Terminal panicles of small yellow flowers in summer become curious coral-colored inflated capsules containing shot-like seeds in the fall. A short distance away these colorful bladder-like pods resemble bougainvilleas.

Turn west and walk to the corner beyond the new Hummingbird Cage where there are two (12) *Eucalyptus mortoniana,* a rare tree that is supposed to be a hybrid of *E. maideni* and *E. globulus,* raised by a Los Angeles man from Australian seed.

Further down along this walk is a double trunk Cape Chestnut, (13) *Calodendron capense* which is indigenous to the coastal forests of South and East Africa. This gray-barked tree may be evergreen or partly deciduous, depending on its location. In the spring its great attraction is the large showy terminal panicles of rose-lilac flowers, dotted with maroon-purple glands. The warty woody fruit capsules which follow are about 2 inches in diameter. They open into 5 parts containing 2 shiny black angled seeds much like chestnuts.

On the way to the Reptile House there is a group of Swamp Mahogany, (14) *Eucalyptus multiflora,* formerly *E. robusta,* on the corner. They have lanceolate leaves, dark green on top, lighter below. Numerous large umbrels of from 40 to 90 flowers of creamy white bear out its Latin name. The reddish bark is deeply furrowed. It is a robust grower if well watered, will even take brackish water.

Continue past the Reptile House to the Flamingo enclosure, where (15) *Alpinia speciosa,* the Shell Ginger of Eastern Asia, forms a tropical backdrop for the salmon crested Cockatoo. These graceful evergreen plants have long stems of smooth leaves and drooping spikes of shell-like buds like glazed china. A few open at a time to show the yellow and white waxy sweet-scented flowers.

Drawing by Alfred Hottes

Ochna Mulyiflora. Mickey Mouse Plant

Walk along the front of the pool to its narrow end where there is an unusual plant (16) *Beaucarnea recurvata,* known as Elephant's Foot, which the trunk resembles. A member of the Lily family, it comes from the arid regions of Texas and Mexico. This tree-like plant with the swollen base, has open branches each topped by a rosette of narrow drooping thin green leaves. Short stalked inflorescences of small white flowers top these green mops in late summer, when it is particularly handsome. Don't prepare to wait, for it only flowered for the third time in twenty-seven years in November, 1961. The leaves are used for coarse hats and mats.

The canyon that goes downhill is a beautiful mass of Green Ebony, (17) *Jacaranda acutifolia,* a tree from Tropical America with fern-like foliage and bluish-purple flowers in early summer. It is variably deciduous for a short time in late winter. (See fuller description in this magazine.)

Now turn and cross the street to the plants to the left of the arching Restaurant entrance, and look for three small (18) *Gardenia thunbergia,* from South Africa. We should see more of these slow-growing shrubs with their twisty glossy deep-green leaves. A lone flower whirls out from a long tube into a fragrant wheel of overlapping petals. The woody seed-pods, nearly 6 inches long, and 3 or more inches around, end in a tail.

The grotesque trees on each side of the rest rooms are (19) *Dracena draco,* the Dragon Tree from the Canary Islands. To call it a palm is erroneous, as it belongs to the Lily family, one of the few of this group that makes a tree. This monstrous plant, more curious than beautiful, always has a stodgy trunk with stubby thick branches, crowned with rosettes of sword-like fleshy glaucous green leaves that, when pulled off, show an orange juice supposed to resemble dragon's blood. Small greenish-yellow flowers are followed by orange fruits, marble size. There are other larger specimens in the Zoo. One outside, at 2040 Dale, has multiple trunks, one at 1244 26th is tree form.

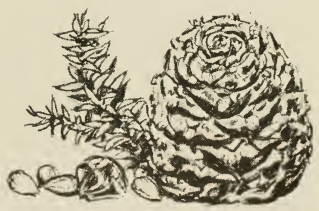
In a circle in the pavement as you walk north is a Sugar Gum, the one most commonly seen in San Diego. (20) *Eucalyptus cladocalyx* is a native Australian that can reach a height of 150 feet. This single specimen illustrates the stately beauty of this variety.

Take the next path to the waterfall to see a very small sample of one of my favorite plants. Towards the base of the dining area, beneath the exit ramp, between a pine and a Opsiandra Maya Palm, you will see a low, many-stemmed (21) *Laurus nobilis,* Sweet or Royal Bay, also called the true Laurel of the ancients. Grown naturally, it has many trunks. When all but one are removed it becomes a fair size tree. Numerous branches bear stiff thin dull aromatic leaves sometimes used in cooking. Greenish-yellow flowers are inconspicuous. The Romans crowned their heroes with wreaths of these leaves. Caesar often wore a laurel wreath. History does not record whether it was for his accomplishments or just to cover his bald head. The laurel endures abuse and neglect so it is often trimmed into various shapes; see the three attractive boxes at 410 West Upas.

Further along is a slender tree of (22) *Chorisia speciosa,* Floss Silk Tree of South America. The trunk of this bottle-shaped tree is heavily studded with stout sharp thorns. It has light green palmate foliage in spring and summer. When the leaves fall late in the year it may be covered with spectacular five-petaled flowers of crimson to pink. The pear-shaped fruit contains seeds packed in a silky floss that is sometimes used as stuffing for inexpensive pillows. In its native country the tree reaches 50 feet with a diameter of 6 feet. The trunk is used for dug-out canoes. There are other trees in Mission Valley in the parking lots of May Co. and Wards.

Behind the Chorisia is a large banana-leaved plant, (23) *Strelitzia nicolai,* Giant Bird - of - Paradise of South Africa. The curiously shaped flowers are encased in canoe-like purple bracts. The blossoms have white sepals and very light blue petals. The plant is a big grower.

Now turn around and retrace your steps until, a little beyond the 15 foot palm on your right you can see a small sample of (24) *Ochna multiflora.* This shrub has beautiful leaves, small, serrate, glossy and pink-tinged when young. The stems are rough as sandpaper. In spring it has golden buttercup flowers that develop into striking reddish calyxes enclosing up to four fruits. At first they are like small green peas, but later they turn jet black, which gives rise to the common



Araucaria bidwilli. Bunya-Bunya Pine

names, Mickey Mouse and Bird's Eye. This handsome tall filler should be better known.

Back on the main path, just beyond a Bottlebrush (5) in a cement planter, you will find a wispy gray plant against a rock near the edge of the water. This thready shrub that belongs to the Dogwood family is a prize winner when well grown. (25) *Corokia cotoneaster,* of New Zealand and the Chatham Islands, is an artistic dwarf shrub noted for its curious interlacing black branches and round to spatulate leaves, dark green above with felted reverses. The small yellow sweet-scented flowers, borne towards the ends of the short twigs, are star-shaped. It has many tiny roundish berries, deep orange or red. Good for tubs or hedges, especially near the coast.

On this same peninsula, about halfway between the two tall palms, is a small bushy (26) *Chiranthodendron platanoides,* commonly called Devil's or Monkey's Hand Treee, but, in its native Mexico and Central America, it is known as Macpalxochiquahuitl. This evergreen has large sycamore-like leaves, slightly downy on the reverse side, with prominent veins. The curious flowers are parted and cup-shaped with thick leathery sepals that are reddish brown outside and bright red inside. Its red stamens are united one third of their length then separated to resemble a hand with claws on the outspread fingers. For summer flowers see one with many trunks at 8213 San Carlos Drive, (San Carlos). One with single trunk at 3141 Shadowlawn, near garage, (Loma Portal) and a tree-like one at 5878 Potomac Way (Paradise Hills).

After passing the service parking area turn right at the first walkway. Fifteen feet ahead on your right is a bulky shrub with large roundish leaves each with several pointed lobes. This (27) *Dombeya wallichi,* Pink Ball, or Weeping Hydranga, from East Africa and Madagascar, belongs to the Chocolate family. In the spring it is heavy with many pendulous pink balls. Each individual flower has 5 petals and 15 to 20 stamens.

Drawing by Alfred Hottes

Chiranthopendron Playanoioes, **Monkey's Hand Tree**

Further on are three (28) *Olea europa,* Common Olive of the Mediterranean region. In years gone by swindlers sold thousands of these wild seedlings to the early settlers as good varieties. Today they are popular again as it seems every subdivision must have a few olive trees.

Walk until you are almost opposite the end of the Penguin tanks. The thorny tree on the right is (29) *Araucaria bidwilli,* Bunya-Bunya Pine from Australia. At this young stage the lower branches are distinctly drooping, and circled with dark-green sharp-pointed leaves. Older trees become huge. They bear large pineapple-shaped cones which weigh up to ten pounds and measure as much as a foot long. One cone will yield eighty or more two-inch seeds. When boiled, salted and roasted they have a flavor halfway between almonds and chestnuts. They are considered highly nutritious. The wood is very strong, beautifully grained, polishes well and can be worked with great facility. The large cones are plentiful every three years. For nut-bearing trees look east of the Botanical Building in Balboa Park, west of the Club House at Sixth and Ivy or near the 25th Street entrance of Golden Hill Park.

The next thorny tree is (30) *Caesalpinia echinata,* Brazil Wood. It is a small tree with low spiney branches and armed pinnate leaves of a dark glossy green. The small flowers are canary-yellow followed by showy twisted oblong pods about 3 inches long, colored red and yellow.

At the intersection of the path turn left. On your left is another Olive (28) and a (11) Koelreutaria. Opposite them, on the hard ground slope to the right is a group of (31) *Cistus purpureus,* orchid-colored Rock Rose. It is a small compact shrub with rough leaves and 3-inch lilac-purple flowers with a maroon blotch at the yellow base of the petals.

This is the end of my short, easy tour, the one with a map. If you like it, ask for more.

Drawing by Dorothy Landon

Seedpod of Monkey's Hand Tree

SPURIA IRIS

By Walker Ferguson

The spuria iris, as found in our gardens of today, has been developed from a number of species which are widely distributed from Europe to China with the most found in the Mediterranean area. Collection for garden use was begun as early as 1753 and with Ochroleuca in 1771. This variety is pretty widely distributed in the U.S.A. and has even gone wild again along some rivers in Montana, which certainly proves its hardiness.

On the other extreme, spuriae can be grown in the hot, dry desert country and the deep south, where the tall bearded have a difficult time of it.

There was considerable hybridizing work done in England near the turn of the century and some of their efforts are shown today with Premier, A. L. Balfour, and Cambridge Blue. These are rather small flowers that look spidery in comparison with modern sorts but they have unfading color that we do not seem to be able to duplicate.

The first hybridizing work with them in this country seems to have been done by T. A. Washington of Tenn., in the early 1930's, but few of his are still around. Those of the English breeders as well as Mr. Washington's, are usually difficult to cross with Nies and Millikin lines. Fairy Wand has flower placement on the stem that I would very much like to duplicate.

Eric Nies produced quite a number of spuria largely in brown, blue and yellow combinations with the browns appearing from what were supposed to be blue crosses.

Millikin's White Heron and Wadi Zem Zem with their large size, have been very useful for large whites and especially yellows. The latter seems to head the list for robust good health.

Marion Walker took over the Nies lines at the time of Mr. Nies' death and has produced a lot of fine spurias most of which I have not seen as yet, as I cannot drive far.

My interest in spurias dates back about a dozen years when I decided that I couldn't cope with the great number of tall bearded iris which were being introduced every year. I found that the spurias grew well here and with some testing, also decided that they could be left dry through the hot summer months which is a real help here where everything depends on irrigation. I have never seen a well established spuria die from lack of water and have let some go for several years where the annual rainfall might be as low as 5 inches.

Of course, to have the best blooms, good watering practice is essential and they are gross feeders. The plants start to go dormant about July 1 and I stop watering until about the first of October when new growth starts. Some balanced fertilizer may be applied but the main fertilization may be done about the first of February when the real growth comes. The tops and flower stems should be cut off when they turn brown and I find a knife with sort of a hooked blade (as used by linoleum workers) to be the most satisfactory tool.

Spuria flowers come in many colors, shapes and sizes but when we say the flower is white, it means white standards and white falls with a yellow signal patch which all hybridizers have tried to eliminate but without real success. The blues and in fact all colors except the yellows have this same signal in some degrees of yellow or brown. Blues and browns seem to fade in hot sunshine. Their entire unpredictability makes hybridizing spurias a most interesting pastime. As an illustration here are the results of a crossing of two browns from different lines: yellow, plum, no bloom, brown, not open, brown, white, yellow, yellow, dark blue, yellow, blue and yellow. The dark blue may be worth saving. There is also considerable variation in height of plant and size and shape of flowers. Eric Nies' wanted spurias for background plants in landscape gardening. At first I admired the tall growers also but now I prefer something not over four feet.

When the flower buds start to open, they often seem to give promise of new wonders that are not fulfilled with the opening of the flower. The falls may tuck under so they are nearly hidden from view, or they may twist or pinch, that is, fold, and colors may soon fade. Also the color on the first year bloom is often much better than it ever seems again. There have been buds that appeared very lavender but within a day, looked almost white. Also ruffling may show less in future bloom.

When I started to grow seedlings, there appeared some with falls that seemed chopped off, with a horned effect on the reverse and perhaps an extreme open V in the standards. I believe that came largely from the variety Two Opals.

Then, later, there were stems with wide branching but they look top heavy to me. The most disappointing and hard to correct feature is too few flowers to the stem and a bunching tendency that is made worse as the flowers get larger. I am satisfied with four or five well spaced flowers.

As I have mentioned, I do not get around to see other gardens and have such an abundance of seedlings that I haven't bought any new things for 10 years. Tell sent me his little red and it does show quite red. Ben Hager sent some that he plans to introduce and his Elixir is a brilliant orangey yellow of good form and substance. Driftwood (Nies-Walker) is a beau-

tiful smooth brown that seems to have trouble in humid climates.

So we come to the ones I consider best of the hundreds of seedlings grown during the past ten years.

Wakerobin is a good-growing white that has a bit of ruffling and a fairly small signal patch. There are two other seedlings with less signal but not as good flowers.

Thrush Song is a blu-purple with considerable brown in the falls.

Good Nature—a large flaring yellow that can grow too tall to suit me.

Windfall, a white with large signal, puts on a great show in a clump with good flower spacing.

Ruffled Moth, light blue and yellow, depends on its exceptional ruffling.

Several years ago, I succeeded in raising two seedlings from a Premier Two Opals cross that had bright violet standards and light yellow falls quite heavily lined and bordered in violet. Some experimental work with one of these now named Counterpoint, has shown what seems to be considered unusual and worthwhile flowers.

Spring Plum has the same general pattern in a different shade.

Contradiction and Moon By Day are from the same seed pod but one is of orchhid brown and the other blue and white markings. Other later crosses are now on the way.

This year, I have especially liked a yellow that I selected two years ago. It has color, size, ruffling, flare and substance, opens early but continues. The plant is good but flowers, though well above the foliage, bunch a bit.

There are some violets that seem new and real good; some very dark ones in maroon or brown. Another that appeals to me has just off-white standards and light yellow falls. I like its ruffling, shape and carriage.

Good blues seem hard to find with Ruth Nies Cabeen not holding its color. There is a light blue, a medium and one quite dark that I shall test for another year.

During the past few years, there has been one rather marked change in the shape of the flowers that we hybridizers, at least, like best. When an older sort was called large, it might have standards and falls not too wide but with the falls widely extended and usually droopy.

Now a more compact type of flower is in favor and just where it started is hard to say. The flowers of today not only come in a greater variety of colors but the standards and falls are wider and usually quite ruffled. Hafts are short which helps to give a more flaring appearance.

Mr. Lenz collected a great variety of species in Europe a few years ago and probably new and perhaps startling flowers may come from their use with these we now have. I set out about 750 little seedlings this spring from many crosses. By the time they have shown their colors, I will be 80 years old and should be able to control my curiosity enough to be satisfied with ordering a few plants from other growers.

But it has been fun and a lot of it has come from meeting people interested in spurias and in correspondence with others as far away as

Spurias have superior value as cut flowers, with several blooms opening in succession, and as corsages—they are called the poor man's orchids.

A Spuria hybridist for many years, Mr. Ferguson speaks with authority on their propagation and on their great value for hot areas, even El Centro. He has established his blue ribbon stock in Escondido. Be alert to these new colored beauties for September planting.

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PLANNED FOR PLAY

By Dorothy Saffer

Two Claremont gardens, landscaped by the owners with prime consideration for their children's outdoor activities, were open to the public in May, on the Third Annual Spring Tour of the Clairemont Woman's Club.

Councilman and Mrs. Jack Walsh, of 4020 Mt. Brundage, have suited their canyon lot to the needs of a baby girl, five boys 2 to 6 years old and their playmates. The covered patio adjoining the living room on the west overlooks the garden scene and becomes the entertainment center for the entire family. Just beyond is a graveled play area equipped with swings, trapeze and a unique missile nose cone, a "junior spaceman's" delight. Here the activities of small children may be supervised from any part of the grounds.

Specimen plants, mostly tropicals, border the redwood fence on the south while colorful petunias and flax mingle on the right side of this section as it slopes down to the grass-covered plot on the edge of the canyon. Over a period of two years Mr. Walsh filled in this lower portion, which doubles the size of the back yard. Under two of the five olive trees in this part of the garden is a picnic table with benches. Numerous varieties of succulents are in the flower beds along the back fence. Other trees, strategically placed in the lawn, challenge the climbing skills of the boys and provide the necessary shade for their play during the hot afternoons.

The farthest reclaimed area is screened from the house by hibiscus and a large Washington Palm in a circular rock planter. In that corner, where the noise is somewhat diminished, is the children's own domain, for imaginative and active play, with lookout posts, forts and olive trees to hide in, and the real climbing bars

Photograph by Mrs. Michael Ginger

Walsh garden view, from children's play-yard.

Kaczur garden showing fishpond.

Photograph by Mrs. Michael Ginger

by the grapestake fence. Here also, heavy cement slabs make a rustic raised firepit for the bonfires or barbecues that always seem to draw the family circle closer.

The garden of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kaczur, of 5011 Northaven Avenue, is entered through a very large patio covered with fiber glass. This offers ample space for lounging and dining furniture as well as a ping pong table. The decorative stone floor was laid, a section or two at a time, by the homeowners. A popular spot is the well-designed circular firepit for outdoor cooking bordered by a handy "L"-shaped bench. Three "do-it-yourselfers," a boy of 8 and two girls, 11 and 15, added the attractive fishpond, complete with goldfish and waterfall. Spaces were left in the stonework to fit gallon cans so the plant decor can be changed as desired. Plenty of outdoor lighting and electrical units permit extensive enjoyment of the patio which is enlivened with fuchsia, fern and succulent hanging baskets, and pots of begonias, clivias and cymbidiums.

For privacy the extensive back yard is enclosed by a high redwood fence which also acts as a windbreak and a handsome background for plants in the two-foot high bed in front of it. This planter keeps acanthus, rice-paper plants and seasonal flowers out of the way of children.

A large part of the garden is in lush green lawn that is an invitation to sun bathing, tumbling, wrestling, croquet and other lawn games. Redwood edging sunk flush with the ground holds the grass in place so it is easier to care for. The same curbing holds back an angular pattern filled with white aggregate next to the retaining wall, accented at regular intervals with citrus trees.

Two trees with dark green foliage, fragrant white flowers and edible fruit provide shade for the main garden. They are *Blighia sapida,* named for the British mariner who wrote about the South Seas. The natives call the fruit "akee."

At the far corner of the garden, behind two low swinging doors is an area designated for a future lathhouse for Mrs. Kaczur who already has shelves of cymbidiums and orchid cacti thriving under a seran screen. The rest of the space serves the youngsters as a play yard, a small zoo for various pets and a growing ground for their vegetables and seeds. Against the north fence is space for a bed of cutting flowers behind a row of healthy fruit trees. A vegetable garden in two long redwood planters, raised about ten inches, is just outside the kitchen door.

To put the "play" in these yards, imagine the two Kaczur children around their fishpond and the five lively sun-burned Walsh boys scampering all over their "activity corner."

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CACTUS HIGHLIGHTS IN THE HUNTINGTON GARDENS

By Helen Marie Stegar

Photograph by Helen Ellsberg

This picture shows one of the many treats in store for those who are planning on visting the Desert Plant Garden at the Huntington Library and Art Gallery grounds at San Marino, California. The Garden, one of many, devoted entirely to cacti and succulents, now covers ten acres. This picture was taken by Helen Ellsberg, photographer, teacher, and contributor to many national magazines, when she accompanied the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society on a tour to the Garden.

The specimen shown may be seen as you walk down the hill toward the lower section of the Garden. The grouping looks so very natural that it belies its careful planning and planting. The barrel-like *Echinocactus grusonii* in the foreground are shown off nicely against the columnar *Cephalocereus senilis* and one of the Cereus in the extreme background.

Common names of the Echinocactus are Barrel or Hedgehog Cactus. Another is the compass cactus. The first comes understandably from its size and shape and the second from the fact that this cactus seems to grow somewhat faster on its shade side and so has a tendency to lean toward the south. This cactus is also called the Golden Barrel Cactus because of the golden glow that seems to permeate the coloring of the spines and the lovely crown of flowers it wears in the spring.

The yellow flowers of medium size, with inbricated scales on flower tubes, circle the crown of the plant like a halo. The fruit, densely covered with white wool, is a favorite of small desert animals.

The Echinocactus is very cylindrical with many vertical ribs covered with large areoles and strong spines. This Genera closely resembles another of its family, the Ferocactus. Native plants come from the home state of Hidalgo, Mexico, where they can grow so large that they have to be taken from the ground with the aid of a crane. Specimens often weigh hundreds of pounds, but it takes many years to reach this size.

In the center of the picture are the cacti *Cephalocereus senilis,* columnar plants covered with white wooly hair at the top. This is the cactus commonly called the Old Man, another native plant of Mexico. Its short, funnel-shaped flowers open at night. They nest in the white wooly hair like so many colorful birds ruffling their wings for flight. This plant is cultivated everywhere for its unique appearance.

In the left background of the picture is a stand of one of the many members of the Cereus genus, a cactus that grows quite large and has many fluted branches.

Cacti such as these from the hot deserts must be watered only every three to four weeks during the winter, and best to do it on sunny days. Plant cacti on a slope to allow for drainage of all excessive moisture. Spring and summer are the natural growth periods for cacti, and they should be watered more often during their growing season.

The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society not only win blue ribbons but they also get around, as their staff editor reports. She also found a photographer who gives an extra bonus with her picture. Try to locate the cactophile kibitzer.

A Calendar of Care

☐ DAHLIAS

THE SHOW'S THE THING

It's show time for San Diego's dahlia growers. The 24th annual two-day show staged by the San Diego County Dahlia Society will open at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 1, in Balboa Park's Conference Building. Sunday show hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. A small admission charge is made, with children under 12 admitted free. Although the dahlia society is comprised of horticulture hobbyists and specimen blooms predominate at the show, a feature of the exhibition is a large arrangement section. Mrs. R. M. Middleton, chairman of the arrangements committee, says the large number of entries shows the versatility of dahlias in all kinds of arrangements. Last year's show attracted 139 competitive arrangements. The number of arrangements classes has been increased this year.

The show is under the general direction of Victor Kerley, president of the society, with W. B. Lohman the show manager. Assistant managers are Clay Finley, John C. Wright, and Virgil V. Brown.

The show manager expects more flowers to be exhibited by more exhibitors this year than last when 86 exhibitors made 1435 entries. About 5000 dahlias are expected to be on display. There were about 4500 last year.

The wide variety of classes offer special attraction to the ordinary flower lover who likes to have dahlias growing in the garden to supply color and cutflowers for the house. Here they may look over all the current varieties in the size they most prefer, select favorites and obtain the names of the dahlias as a guide for growing in their own gardens next year.

In addition to growing and exhibiting dahlias, the Society's hobby growers like to talk about them, and several will be on duty in the show hall at all times to answer questions. Whether the questions concern culture or sources of supply or recommended varieties, the show hosts will provide answers.

In addition, the show is a working demonstration of how to exhibit dahlias in competition or for home decoration, for bouquets or for arrangements, both formal and mass displays.

The show visitor will notice that all specimen blooms have foliage; the rules require at least one set of leaves. Stems of the larger ones will be at least 12 inches long and of the smaller, attractively proportionate. The flowers will be free of buds, will stand erect, and will face the exhibitor (the exhibitor hopes).

There are special rules for dahlias in the arrangements which permit shorter stems as required, and which permit use of other foliage, filler, figurines, and other accessories.

Another opportunity for the average gardener to get better acquainted with dahlias is provided in the separation of the exhibition classes into types as well as colors and sizes. By actually comparing the blooms, it will be easy to detect the difference between formal and informal and between cactus and semi cactus.

A new feature of this year's show will be a court of honor made up of the best blooms in each exhibitor section, from novice to open-to-all. For the first time a best-amateur-bloom will be selected, in addition to the best-in-show. The court of honor also will have the largest and the smallest, ranging from 15 inches down to a half-inch or so, and the newest in dahlia seedlings.

Many of the world's top exhibition dahlias started as seedlings exhibited for their first time at the San Diego show. These have included originations by R. Paul Comstock of Solana Beach and by Nat Lundgren of Santa Cruz in recent years, and other San Diegans and Southern California growers in past years.

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Comstock, Lundgren and others are expected to have this year's seedling offerings on the bench when judging begins. One of Comstock's originations, offered to the public for the first time this year, and to be exhibited at this year's show in competitive classes is a huge blend named John Gregory for a resident of Rancho Santa Fe.

Other famous Comstock flowers to be seen include Lula Pattie, a white, which has won many largest-in-show trophies in the last three years, and the ball-round yellow First Lady, top dahlia winner everywhere for the last five years.

When the visitor sees all of the blooms standing erect and in orderly lines on the benches he will be seeing the reason for a year-around hobby followed by the dahlia society's members and by many other dahlia growers.

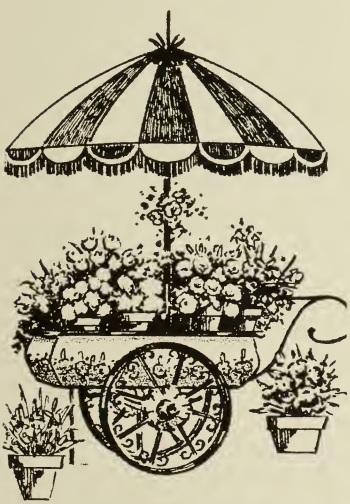
Most of the exhibitors are men, although some of the women members are stiff competitors on the specimen tables, in addition to the arrangements section.

They will have cut their flowers during the late afternoon and early evening the day before the show, placing them immediately in deep buckets of air-temperature water to stage overnight. All foliage below the water line will have been removed as the long stems are cut. The flowers will have been carried to the show in the buckets hauled in trucks, in the backs of cars, or in the loving hands of the grower riding in the front seat.

Each bloom will have been given close inspection to see that no dirt shows on the leaves, and that the stem is long enough, but not too long, and that the bloom faces just right when it is placed in a vase. Plain water will fill the vases. No preservatives are necessary for the blooms to remain fresh and attractive through the show, or on for a couple of days, for that matter.

Each entry card will have been made out with the name of the exhibitor, the name of the variety, and the entry class. And the exhibitor will hope for a winner to bring home a trophy.

Larry Sisk
S.D. County Dahlia Society



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☐ FUCHSIAS

Our rather late cool Spring has produced some unusually fine sturdy fuchsia plants, as their peak blooming season was delayed by lack of warm sunshine. This can give the grower advantages such as heavier bloom, bigger and more brilliant flowers, longer and more repeated blooming periods and, best of all, better resistance to drought, insect infection or indifferent care. The outstanding advantages of well-grown, sturdy, healthy material are most important to remember in choosing new plants for the garden.

With the hottest part of the season yet to come the most essential things to watch now are proper moisture at all times, protection from too much sun and wind, regular and frequent checking of container plants for dryness (even on cool foggy days) and a bi-weekly fish-emulsion base feeding to keep plants up to par.

Fuchsias and other plants of rainforest origin are best kept moist during hot or windy weather by fogging mists into the air about them as well as by slow watering around the plant roots. After the deep watering needed occasionally to leach out injurious minerals in our soil, more fresh soil should be added to replace that washed away. Unlike some plants, fuchsias are not easily overwatered in summer, provided they have good drainage.

Although remarkably free from most plant diseases, fuchsias are afflicted by some of the pests found in mild climates, especially if they are under-par or neglected towards the hot dry end of the blooming season. White fly and aphids may cause leaf curl, red spider mites and thrip are blamed for leaf discoloration and dropping of foliage. As a preventive, frequent sharp spraying with water on both under and upper sides of the leaves plus occasional applications of mild insecticides containing nicotine sulphate, pyrethrum, rotenone or lindane should suffice. If an infestation should occur, sprays containing malathion may be required. For white fly, thrip, worms and caterpillars sometimes prevalent early in the season, DDT sprays are recommended, but remember that sensitive fuchsia plants may be defoliated or injured by the use of chemicals that are stronger than necessary. Beware of ants nearby or on your plants. They are known to give comfort and succor to some enemy insects.

Now is the time to enjoy our gardens and all they produce, in all their uses. In the current widespread recognition and popularity of fuchsias, their distinctive possibilities in flower arrangements, corsages and for table decor with ferns have been a pleasant surprise to many flower lovers. Floated in a big brandy snifter or crystal bowl, blooms of some huge new varieties make a striking table decoration.

Among the few plants that bloom best in shady places, the fuchsia, with its many eye-catching colors, unusual new forms and aristocratic daintiness, adds charm to any garden. Baskets of light-colored varieties for dull garden nooks, or among big ferns, create an effect of restful serenity that makes one want to linger. If nearby there are the comfortable seats that every good garden should have, here may be your favorite retreat from the tensions so common now and an avenue towards the much needed peace and hopefulness that so many people seem to be seeking today.

Morrison W. Doty
S.D. Fuchsia Society

☐ ROSES

With the proper watering and feeding and the friendly environment of San Diego climate, rose bushes by now are looking large and crowded. The average visitor with good reason remarks "I've never seen such rose

bushes—how do you do it?" With our long growing season, this growth in itself becomes a problem unless the bushes are planted four feet or more apart. But if this is done, an occasional straggler makes an uneven appearance in the bed. It is preferable, in my opinion, to plant closer together (30 36 inches) and then try to keep things under control.

Continuing disbudding all year, allows freedom when blooms are cut to remove long growth to a reasonable height. If the bush is spreading at all, cut to an inside eye to force the bush up and not out. Prune any unproductive "twiggy" growth from the lower part of the bush. This tends to open the inside of the bush and give better ventilation. However, don't remove any good basal breaks that look as if they are going to amount to something. Considerable judgment should be used in this mid-summer pruning. If the bush is not crowded and is not growing rampantly—leave it alone. It probably needs all the leaves it has for food production.

Mid-summer presents no special problems otherwise. With hot dry weather, make sure there is plenty of water. You can evaluate the need very easily by having a few sticks in the soil to a depth of about eight inches and then pull them out once in awhile to see if the clinging earth is still damp appearing. If not, it is watering time and then put the equivalent of one or two inches in the bed.

Mildew and rust are always a threat and warm weather is red spider time. With Acti Dion-PM for the former and Cygon for spider and thrip, a healthy rose bed is easier these days. Dust with any good rose dust a couple of times a month (from above) to give beetles and other chewing insects something to think about. Dust should be used in addition to the other two. By itself it never did anything for me in controlling mildew, rust, thrip or spider.

If you are a real rose enthusiast, you know by this time that the two 1965 All America Rose Selections are Mister Lincoln and Camelot. Both are products of the great California team of hybridizers, Herbert Swim and Ollie Weeks. Mister Lincoln is a velvety red hybrid tea — a cross between Chrysler Imperial and Charles Mallerin. It is supposed to surpass both parents in fragrance—no mean feat if true. Camelot is a cross of Circus and Queen Elizabeth and is described as a coral pink grandiflora. It is supposed to have an intense attar of roses fragrance which would make it one of the

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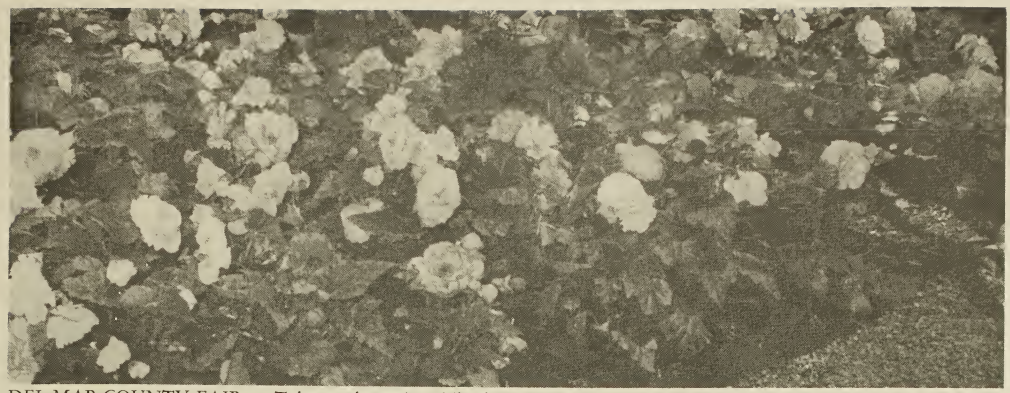

DEL MAR COUNTY FAIR — Tuberous begonia exhibit by Howard Voss. *Photo Courtesy Del Mar County Fair*

Those who enjoyed the tuberous begonias at the Fair will be happy to see the above portion of the big first prize blooms from Encinitas. The Men's Garden Club, kept up its exhibition record by winning another chest-expanding ribbon. The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society scored a double header, two blues with two entries! Geroge Evans was in there with his usual restful and artistic shade gardens. There was a notable improvement in the entries of the newer garden clubs. That long row of Desert gardens proves Bob Lamp's showmanship in laying out floor spaces. The new Bonsai displays were another attractive addition. The whole caliber of the Garden show was execellent. Incidently, the resourcefulness and equanimity of Bob Lamp, Show Manager, even under most trying and pressing conditions, deserves the highest praise.

few fragrant grandifloras. This reporter has no personal knowledge of these roses, so we must wait and see if they live up to expectations. I looked for them in Rose Hills, Descanso Gardens and Exposition Park but either missed them or didn't recognize the trial number. Perhaps by next issue I can give a first hand report. Fragrant roses are more than welcome.

Dr. Donald A. Wilson
President, S.D. Rose Society

☐ CAMELLIAS

Summer has promoted new sets of bud growth for our coming flowering season. On many varieties you probably noted single, dual or cluster buds on the spring tip growth in early June. As they gain size it would benefit the plant and the quality of the bloom to thin the crop down to a single bud or not more than two (one early and one late) on each stem.

If you completed the second application of fertilizer by July first dark green glossy leaves should now indicate a natural and healthy state of growth. The third and final application, as is normally done, finds September first a good time to meet the season's food demands, in addition to careful watering.

Pinching the tip out of new summer growth can do much toward making shapely plants without too much sacrifice of wood.

If you followed a grafting program to add a few favorites to your collection they should now be uncovered and new growth hardened. Light watering is a good practice for a while until more leaf structure is developed. *No* fertilizing is really best advice for several months. When the grafts have knitted well, tree seal may be applied on the unions. Some staking and tying is a good idea unless they have developed properly.

All plants, young or old, are prey to the aphids and cheivers. As advised earlier, apply a regular spray with some of the many recommended materials at three to four week intervals.

Harvey F. Short
S.D. Camellia Society

☐ BEGONIAS

A few years ago the writer of this column told all the wrong things the recipient of a tuberous begonia gift did to that plant until it died. This description of how she followed the nurseryman's instructions to care for a new plant furnishes exact and timely advice again . . .

You learn that the plants should be kept moist, but not *wet;* that they like a location that is protected from the wind, but with a good circulation of air. They like sunlight, but filtered sunlight, so that the sun will not be on any one part of the plant for too long a time. You learn, also, that when the instructions on a bottle of fungicide-insecticide call for a stated amount, you are to use that amount only, and not more; that it is better to err on the side of not enough, rather than on the side of too much. The plant will need to be fed when it is growing vigorously; again, the instructions on the container should be followed, and not overdone.

You are told that in the fall a begonia will begin to go into its resting period. Indications of this are the smaller flowers it will produce, and the way the leaves will tend to grow down, rather than stand upright. This is the time to begin withholding some of the moisture to let the top die back. When the top is dry, and the stem comes off, you put the pot aside for a few weeks, dump it out, and discover that the potato-like tuber which has given you all of this beauty was growing in a very light, loose mixture.

You have followed your nurseryman's advice, and have enjoyed your tuberous begonias all season, and when they have been dumped out of their pots, you carefully lift the tubers, set them aside to dry completely, and store them in a dry, dark location until the next early spring.

Of course, you're going to try again. You did very well after a bad start. Next summer you can be the giver.

Margaret M. Lee
A. D. Robinson
Begonia Society

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Rep.: Mrs. J. W. Jenkins 296-4756
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1729 Montgomery Rd., El Cajon

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First Friday, VFW Hall, Carlsbad,
1:30 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. Doris Simpson 729-1515
1075 Chinquapin Ave., Carlsbad

CHULA VISTA FUCHSIA CLUB
Second Tuesday, Norman Park Recreation
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Pres.: Mrs. William Hook 422-6322
133 I, Chula Vista

CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB
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Place announced at each meeting.
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Valley Center

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Pres.: Mrs. W. R. Kuhner 443-3163
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Third Thursday, La Mesa Woman's Club,
1:45 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. J. Holland Noel 463-6795
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LEMON GROVE WOMAN'S CLUB
(GARDEN SECTION)
First Tuesday, Lemon Grove Woman's
Club House, 1 p.m.
Chairman: Mrs. O. R. Patterson
8396 Golden, Lemon Grove 466-5242

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Community Bldg., 7:30 p.m.
President: Henry Dell 284-7346
4912 Mansfield, S. D. 16

O. C. IT GROW GARDEN CLUB
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School Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. James E. Flynn 722-3509
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Second Monday, Ramona Women's
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510 Fifth, Ramona

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La Mesa, 7:30 p.m.
President: Mr. R. M. Frodahl 469-1933
3852 Avocado, La Mesa

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First Fri., Vista Rec. Center, 1:30 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. James Sorenson 724-1745
1655 Foothill, Vista

Photograph by Sim Richards

GOLDEN-RAIN TREE IN ZOO PICNIC AREA—SEE ZOO PLANT TOUR, WITH MAP, PAGE 16

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